

moved from downtown to Oakland more than 100 years ago. The cornerstone for the new church was blessed on August 10, 1902. The boundaries of the old Cathedral parish became the boundaries for the Church of the Epiphany's parish. From 1903 until 1906, when the new Cathedral was finished, Epiphany served as the interim Cathedral.

The Church is a beautiful red brick structure built in the Romanesque style. It was designed by Edward Stotz at the turn of the last century with a pair of twin towers, slate roofs, and terra cotta trim. The church design also features several statues from the old Cathedral. The interior decoration was designed by John Comes, who designed a number of Catholic churches in the Pittsburgh area. Most of the original artwork has been preserved and restored.

Father Lawrence O'Connell founded Church of the Epiphany and was its pastor for its first 54 years. He is credited with developing and operating parish programs that ably served downtown residents, workers, and the many immigrants who were streaming into Pittsburgh at that time. Under his leadership, the parish created and ran a residence for working women, a nursery, a home for infants, a home for older children, an elementary school, summer camp for under privileged children, an athletic association for young men, a prison ministry, and other religious, cultural, and education programs. In the first half of the 20th century, the Church served a parish of roughly 2,000 families.

Over time, however, the neighborhood changed. Grand plans for the first Pittsburgh renaissance dictated that much of the land covered by the parish be converted to new uses. In 1957, much of the Lower Hill neighborhood around Epiphany, including church property, was razed as part of an urban redevelopment project. Eighteen hundred families were relocated, and only 350 parishioner families remained.

The urban renewal efforts of the late 1950s and early 1960s marked the beginning of a difficult time for the Church of the Epiphany. Due to declining enrollment, for example, Epiphany School was closed in 1973—after 70 years of educating children from the community. Against all odds, the parish has struggled valiantly to survive under the leadership of a series of worthy successors to Father O'Connell. The 1960s and 1970s were a challenging time, but the congregation of the Church of the Epiphany preserved, and the Church carved out a new mission for itself in the dramatically different Lower Hill area of Pittsburgh.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Father Jim Garvey, the current pastor of Epiphany Catholic Church, and his congregation on the momentous occasion of the Church's 100th anniversary—and I want to share with them my best wishes for the future.

SAVE HISTORIC VETERANS  
BUILDINGS

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for more than 40 years, since the enactment by Con-

gress of the landmark National Historic Preservation Act, preservation of our historic landmarks has been a mission of the Federal government and its agencies. That is no less true of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), which owns 1,860 nationally significant buildings—more than any department except the Departments of the Interior and Defense. However, no department faces more challenges than the Department of Veterans Affairs in preserving its historic buildings. That is why today I am introducing the Veterans Heritage Preservation Act of 2002, a bill establishing a comprehensive approach to assisting the department in fulfilling its historic preservation mission while honoring Americans veterans.

The sheer scope of the task is daunting. The VA's historic buildings go back to a 1735 mill on the bank of the Susquehanna River in Perry Point, Maryland, and include a series of residential communities built for Civil War veterans. The VA also owns historic hospital buildings and living quarters constructed by the Veterans Bureau following World War I. Many of these buildings have outstanding architecture and some are sites of important events. They are located in almost every state. All represent the commitment made by the Federal government to look after our war veterans.

As the cost of health care has risen in recent years, the Department has focused on providing veterans with cost effective health care. This has made obsolete many of the Department's historic buildings which have been chosen to conserve funds. Some of these treasures have been allowed to deteriorate and ultimately face demolition. Because the Department's historic preservation requirements are funded from the same allocation for patient care, the Department has consistently chosen to underfund its historic preservation mission.

The legislation I offer today eliminates this difficult choice by establishing a Veterans Heritage Preservation Fund dedicated to the Department's preservation needs and authorized at an annual level of \$20 million, subject to appropriations. The fund would be used to evaluate, stabilize, preserve, renovate, and restore the Department's historic buildings. The fund could also be used for grants to State and local governments and non-profit organizations in connection with the adaptive reuse of historic buildings. The bill also establishes within the Department a high level Office of Historic Preservation to monitor the Department's historic preservation program.

The bill also encourages leasing historic VA properties to groups that will preserve and restore them and promotes the VA to enter into public-private partnerships for historic preservation. The goal is to keep the VA's historic buildings alive by finding new uses for them. Even if they are used for community purposes that aren't directly related to veterans' care, they will honor our veterans by preserving these important cultural legacies.

The VA's historic buildings represent an important national treasure that can never be replaced. They serve as a link between all Americans and past generations of veterans. Writing in the July 1, 2001, issue of the *Paralyzed Veterans of America Paralegia News*, Thomas D. Davies, Jr., AIA, former director of architecture for Paralyzed Veterans of America, said, "The VA's historic structures provide

direct evidence of America's proud heritage of veterans' care and can enhance our understanding of the lives of soldiers and sailors who fashioned our country."

The need quickly to preserve historic VA buildings increased in June when the VA announced an initiative to identify and close more buildings that are considered outdated. The initiative, Phase II of the ongoing planning process called the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES), is expected to be completed in two years. It is critical for the VA to prepare to handle the large number of its historic buildings which could join the endangered list.

The legislation follows a joint recommendation earlier this year by AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, which called on Congress to enact legislation to systematically preserve the most important historic buildings owned by the VA and to promote the reuse of historic properties by local communities.

Most of the threatened buildings were part of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, created by one of the last acts signed by President Lincoln before his assassination, and constructed between 1867 and 1930. The buildings are now owned by the VA. The National Home evolved into complete planned communities with barracks, mess halls, chapels, schools, hotels, libraries, band stands, amusements halls, theaters, and shops, many of which still stand, and include outstanding examples of 19th and early 20th century architecture.

The National Home had facilities in eleven cities. The cities, and dates the branches were founded are: Togus, Maine (1866); Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1867); Dayton, Ohio (1867); Hampton, Virginia (1870); Leavenworth, Kansas (1885); Santa Monica, California (1888); Marion, Indiana (1888); Danville, Illinois (1898); Johnson City, Tennessee (1901); Hot Springs, South Dakota (1902); and Bath, New York (1929).

The National Home represents many historical developments, including the Nation's first the first large-scale attempt by the Federal government to care for veterans. The buildings included the first non-religious planned communities, the first Federal effort to establish large-scale rehabilitation programs, a significant expansion of Federal benefits to citizen-veterans, a landmark in the development of Federal responsibility for the social safety net, and the first permanent churches constructed by the Federal government.

Before it was merged with the VA in 1930, the National Home cared for more than 100,000 Civil War and other veterans, many of whom were shattered physically and spiritually from the carnage of war. These buildings are an important part of our national heritage as well as significant contributors to the history and culture of the communities where they are located.

According to Professor Patrick J. Kelly, author of *Creating a National Home* (Harvard University Press), "The National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers is an institution that all Americans can treasure. This institution was an early and strikingly generous example of the federal government's commitment the care of the nation's veterans."

Kelly wrote, "The surviving buildings of the National Home offer contemporary Americans

a cultural treasure that serves to remind us of the profound sacrifices made by soldiers during the Civil War, and of the resolve of post Civil-War America the sacrifices of its veterans would not be ignored. That buildings of the National Home have much to teach us about the past, but perhaps even more importantly, offer Americans valuable lessons for veterans care that apply to today and to the future."

More than 100 historic VA buildings from all eras are underutilized or vacant and are threatened with deterioration and ultimate destruction. Those buildings include an impressive row of Victorian lodging quarters from Ford Howard in Baltimore County, Maryland, and an elaborate Victorian theater in Milwaukee which hosted all the big stars of the day, including a child pianist who lived across the street, Liberace. An entire series of 39 Georgian and Romanesque Revival style structures by master builder James McGonigle in Leavenworth, Kansas, was so close to demolition that in 2000 the National Trust for Historic Preservation included the buildings on its list of America's 11 most endangered historic places. Those buildings are still threatened.

I represent Dayton, Ohio, which was the headquarters of the National Home and its largest branch. A number of buildings in my district are in danger of deterioration and ultimate demolition, including the building that housed the national administrative offices for the National Home and the first permanent church constructed by the Federal government—a building which was constructed by the veterans themselves. My constituents—veteran and non-veteran—are concerned about this potential loss to their historical heritage.

Mr. Speaker, providing for the Department of Veterans Affairs' historic preservation requirements in no way need to diminish funding for the Department's other missions and is fully consistent with the Department's broader goal of honoring and caring for the Nation's veterans. It will require some money and it will require a lot of will. With this legislation, I hope to provide a framework for the VA to better carry out its responsibility to preserve the historic legacy under its control that belongs to veterans and to all Americans.

HONORING PASTOR DOUGLAS P.  
JONES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 24, 2002*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise before you today on behalf of the congregation of Welcome Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac, Michigan, to recognize and congratulate Reverend Douglas P. Jones, who celebrated his 13th anniversary as the pastor of the church on June 18, 2002.

Upon graduation from University of Cincinnati, Pastor Jones continued his studies in pastoral care administration at Cincinnati Bible College. On April 8, 1989, the Church voted to call Reverend Jones as their pastor. Pastor Jones accepted and was installed on June 18, 1989. During his years of service, he has earned certificates in various workshops and counseling sessions, as well as special training in administration, management, and planning.

Pastor Jones' time and dedication with the ministry has allowed him to develop strong support that extends throughout the city of Pontiac, including serving as the Chaplain of the Oakland County Sheriff Department, and acting as a board member for the United Way Oakland County. Additionally, the diligence he has shown over the years has led to the expansion of the church and its congregation. Pastor Jones is more than deserving of the numerous honors and awards that he has received over the past 13 years, including commendations from the City of Pontiac and the State of Michigan, among many others.

The work that Pastor Jones has accomplished on behalf of the community is tremendous. Through his creation of the Greater Pontiac Community Coalition, he has helped generate programs that have guided our youth to a brighter future. Programs such as Youth in Government and Invent America, as well as scholarship programs through the Church and the Coalition, have helped open doors of success for hundreds of young men and women.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Douglas P. Jones' devotion to spreading God's Word is an inspiration to us all. As a former seminarian, I understand the important role the Church plays in our lives, and I am proud to call him my colleague and my friend. Self-evident is his lifelong commitment to enhancing the dignity and nurturing the spirits of all people, and our community is a much better place because of him. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to join me in congratulating Pastor Jones.

ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE NEW GLARUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 24, 2002*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department of Wisconsin, which is celebrating 100 years of excellence. This outstanding achievement is marked by the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department's commitment to providing safe, efficient, and effective emergency services.

New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department's standards of excellence were first instituted in 1902 with the formation of Company No. 1. From the incorporation of the village in 1845 until 1902, fires were fought by means of a bucket brigade. Company No. 1 replaced the old fashioned bucket brigade with the latest technology, circa 1902, a hose cart and hand-drawn ladder rig. Staffed by 24 dedicated firefighters, the equipment was housed in the New Glarus Town Hall, in which the first arriving firefighter rang a bell, alerting the remainder of the company to call.

Today, the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department is fully modernized, serving a 71-square-mile fire protection district that covers the village of New Glarus as well as the towns of York, Perry and Primrose in the rolling hills of Green and Dane Counties. In 1981, the current fire station was erected just west of the village hall, and has the capacity to hold up to ten pieces of apparatus. In addition to responding to fires, the totally volunteer depart-

ment of 36 members, now reacts to motor vehicle, hazardous materials incidents and assists the New Glarus EMS.

Although the bell has been replaced by a modern siren system, the call to tirelessly safeguard the lives and property of area citizens remains the same for the New Glarus Volunteer Firefighters. These courageous volunteers join the prestigious though often under-appreciated ranks of the "everyday hero." Now, more than every, our nation is comforted by the knowledge that such citizens are prepared to protect our communities. So, when the siren sounds, those citizens served by the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department are assured that they will receive the best possible assistance.

I wholeheartedly congratulate the New Glarus Fire Department for 100 years of protecting their community and recognize their continuing commitment to excellence.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 24, 2002*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on July 23, 2002, I was granted a Leave of Absence due to a family emergency. I was not present for rollcall votes Nos. 330, 331, 332, 333, and 334.

If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 330 an amendment by Representative GOSS to limit the use of funds to enforce the ban on travel to Cuba; "yes" on No. 331 an amendment by Representative FLAKE to prohibit the use of funds to enforce the ban on travel to Cuba by U.S. citizens; "yes" on No. 332 by Representative FLAKE to prohibit the use of funds to enforce restrictions on remittances to nationals of Cuba; "yes" on No. 333 by Representative RANGEL an amendment to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer or enforce the economic embargo against Cuba; and "yes" on No. 334 passage of H.R. 3609, the Pipeline Safety Act.

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY TO JULIUS  
WADE KING

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 24, 2002*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, eighty years ago on August 2, 1922, Julius Wade King was born in Lockhart, MS, to James and Clara King. Julius, better known as Judy, has led a life devoted to business, education, service, church, and family.

A product of public schools, Judy graduated Heidelberg High School in 1940 and entered Jones County Junior College (JCJC); Judy then received his B.S. degree from the University of Mississippi in 1943. Upon leaving Ole Miss, Judy attended U.S. Naval Midshipman's School at Notre Dame and was commissioned as an officer. But graduating from JCJC, Ole Miss, and Notre Dame would not end Judy's association with education, for he has devoted more than 6 decades to the field.

Active in the South Pacific until 1946, Judy was discharged from the Navy and moved to